WE CLAIM:

- 1. A method for colonizing a plant with an ectomycorrhizal fungus that comprises:
 - inoculating a culture medium with said ectomycorrhizal fungus;
 - adjoining at least one layer of said culture medium to at least one layer of a soil to form a plant colonizing system;
 - optionally, allowing said ectomycorrhizal fungus to colonize said soil;
 - inserting at least one root of said plant into said plant colonizing system; and
 - cultivating said plant in said colonizing system for a period of time sufficient to allow said at least one root to contact said ectomycorrhizal fungus.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said ectomycorrhizal fungus is *Tuber melanosporum*.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said culture medium is inoculated using a root-organ colonized by said ectomycorrhizal fungus.
- 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said root-organ is a *Cistus incanus* root-organ.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said culture medium is a solid culture medium.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said soil is sterile vermiculite.
- 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said sterile vermiculite is moistened sterile vermiculite.

- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein said moistened sterile vermiculite has been obtained by adding a mix of Ca(OH)₂ and modified PDMmA medium to said sterile vermiculite.
- 9. A system for colonizing a plant with an ectomycorrhizal fungus that comprises at least one layer of a culture medium adjoining at least one layer of a soil, wherein said culture medium is inoculated with said ectomycorrhizal fungus.
- 10. The system of claim 9, wherein said ectomycorrhizal fungus is *Tuber melanosporum*.
- 11. The system of claim 9, wherein said culture medium is inoculated using a root-organ colonized by said ectomycorrhizal fungus.
- 12. The system of claim 11, wherein said root-organ is a *Cistus incanus* root-organ.
- 13. The system of claim 9, wherein said culture medium is a solid culture medium.
- 14. The system of claim 9, wherein said soil is sterile vermiculite.
- 15. The system of claim 14, wherein said sterile vermiculite is moistened sterile vermiculite.
- 16. The system of claim 15, wherein said moistened sterile vermiculite has been obtained by adding a mix of Ca(OH)₂ and modified PDMmA medium to said sterile vermiculite.
- 17. Use of the system of claim 9 to colonize a plant with an ectomycorrhizal fungus.

18. The use of claim 17, wherein said ectomycorrhizal fungus is *Tuber melanosporum*.